

A NEW SPECIES OF *ROUPALA* (PROTEACEAE)
FROM VENEZUELA

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ROUPALA *GRIOTII* Steyermark, sp. nov.

Arbor 3-metralis, ramis bubalino-tomentosis; foliis petiolatis, petiolis 1.2-6 cm longis tomentosis; laminis rigide coriaceis integerrimis subtus pallido-viridibus late ovatis vel late ellipticis apice longiacuminatis basi acutis 8-15 cm longis 3-8.5 cm latis supra glabris subtus pallido-strigillosis vel glabrescentibus; nervis lateralibus utroque latere 5-6 apicem versus curvatis ante marginem desinentibus ubique tenuibus subtus leviter impressis; inflorescentiis axillaribus 15-20 cm longis 2-2.5 cm latis multifloris, rhachidi pallido-brunneo-tomentosis, pedunculis 1.5-2.5 cm longis; perianthio 10-13 mm longo, tubo 7-8 mm longo supra medium 2 mm lato basin versus 1.5 mm lato extus dense pallido-brunneo-villosulo intus glabro, lobis ligulatis 6-7 mm longis 1.1 mm latis extus dense pallido-brunneo-villosulis intus glabris; antheris lineari-oblongis 3-4 mm longis 0.5 mm latis; pistillo 9.5 mm longo, stylo 8 mm longo glabro; ovario ovoideo 1.5 mm longo 1.2 mm lato minute strigilloso; disco 4-lobato 0.8-0.9 mm alto, lobis deltoideo-orbicularibus subobtusis 0.7 mm longis 0.8 mm latis; pedicellis frugiferis 2 mm longis tomentellis; fructu oblique obovoido apice rotundato abrupte angulatoque basi abrupte angustato substipitato 1.5-2 cm longo 1-1.3 cm lato extus minute pallido-tomentelloso; seminibus suborbiculari-ovatis extremitatibus rotundatis alatis 13 mm longis 10.5 mm latis, corpore brunneo triangulari-obconico 7 mm longo 8 mm lato, ala 2-4 mm lata.

Type. VENEZUELA: TERRITORIO FEDERAL AMAZONAS: gallery forest bordering tree savanna with Platycaerpon orinocense, vecindades del río Coro-Coro y del aeropuerto de Yutaje, lat. 5°35'N, long. 66°10' W, alt. 250 m, 22 Feb 1979, "tree 3 m tall; leaves coriaceous, stiff, deep green above, pale green below; flowers with green style and pale brown, reflexed perianth", Julian A. Steyermark, Marcel Griot Casanova, and Parker Redmond 117920 (Holotype: VEN).

This species is related to *R. montana* Aubl., from which it may be distinguished by the densely brown tomentose rachis, flowers with spreading hairs, shorter peduncle and pedicels, and smaller, differently shaped fruit. From *R. dissimilis* Pittier, placed under synonymy of *R. montana* by Sleumer (Bot. Jahrb. 76 (2): 170-171. 1954. Proteaceae americanae), *R. griotii* differs in the shorter pedicels, pubescent petioles and leaf-blades, and more densely

tomentose pubescence of spreading hairs on rachis, pedicels, and perianth. It also resembles Panopsis suaveolens (Kl. & Karst.) Pittier, but that species has strongly revolute leaves which are rounded to subcordate at the base.

Roupala griotii is named in honor of Marcel Griot Casanova, an enthusiastic plant collector, and highly competent, versatile air pilot, who has successfully guided the author several times to interesting collecting grounds in the Territorio Federal Amazonas of Venezuela.